



State of Arizona
Department of Education

March 4, 2016

21st Century Community Learning Center Grant RFP for Cycle 14, 2016-2017

Dear Prospective Applicant:

21st Century Community Learning Centers Grant funding is available for academic out-of-school time programs through the Arizona Department of Education (ADE). The purpose of the 21st Century Community Learning Center (21st CCLC) Grant is to establish school site learning centers that provide students with standards-based academic enrichment classes and opportunities with focused assistance in math, reading and writing during out-of-school time. The 21st Century Community Learning Center offers a safe, engaging environment that complements the regular school day. Successful programs have showed statistically significant improvement in mathematics and positive growth in reading and student behavior. Applicants align their 21st CCLC goals with school improvement or student academic goals.

This grant provides funding for students to receive academic intervention opportunities in core academic subjects such as reading, writing and mathematics. Programs are required to utilize strategies proven to be effective based on scientifically-based research. Funding may also be used to provide standards-based enrichment programs, including but not limited to *STEM*: Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics, art, music, youth development, entrepreneurship, drug and violence prevention, and adult education that empowers families to boost their children's academic achievement.

Entities eligible to apply for this discretionary funding include any public or private organization, such as: Local Education Agencies (LEA'S), City or county government agencies, community-based organizations (CBO'S), non-profit organizations (NPO'S), faith-based organizations (FBO'S), Institution of higher education, For profit corporations, or a consortium of two or more such agencies, organizations, or entities. Entities must serve students who attend schools where at least 40% of the students qualify for free/reduced meals. Any agency which is not a school must partner with the school serving the students targeted for assistance.

The application will be available in late March 2016, on the ADE Grants Management System at ADE Connects <https://home.azed.gov/Portal/>. However, you will have access to the application in Word format on Monday, March 7, 2016. If you have not worked with ADE Connects in the past, or are not certain if you have the proper credentials, please contact ADE Support Desk at (602) 542-7378 or adesupport@azed.gov. If you have used the new GME system but are unable to view the 21st CCLC new grant application or need technical assistance in completing the application, you may contact ADE Grants Management at (602) 542-3901 or grants@azed.gov. The status of your completed applications must be changed to "LEA Authorized Representative Approved" at ADE Connects no later than 5:00:00 pm, May 4, 2016.

We are proud of the impact the 21st Century Community Learning Center Grant has had in Arizona schools and communities across the state and we are confident this program will continue to make a positive difference in the learning experiences of Arizona's students.

For more information, see the 21st CCLC website, <http://www.azed.gov/century-learning-centers/application-information/>. For questions, please contact our office at 602-364-2349 or 21stCCLC@azed.gov

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cindy Trejo".

Cindy Trejo
State Director, 21st Century Community Learning Centers

